

Gustav HENYEY (General) Germany

Former Foreign Minister and Chief
of Staff of Hungarian Army.
One of leading non-political
personalities of emigration;
head of Hungarian Refugee Service
in Germany

Gustav Henyey, a former high ranking officer of the Hungarian Army; graduate of Ludovika, Hungarian military academy, equivalent of West Point. Also graduate of the Hungarian Command and General Staff School. Excellent linguist. The majority of his service was spent in diplomatic assignments as military attache. Regent Horthy appointed him in the Ministry of Defense. Premier Lakatos appointed him on 22 March 1944 to Foreign Minister. His original name was Herb. Since he had extensive knowledge of the anti-Nazi underground during the Nazi regime, the Gestapo jailed him. After the liberation of Hungary from the Nazi rule, the government sent him to Germany in charge of repatriation of the Hungarian expellees and refugees. He has been in Germany since 1945.

Gustav Henyey is an excellent director of the Hungarian office. A well tried diplomat. He always kept himself on top in spite of the repeated and concentrated attack by the Hungarian rightist and leftist elements against him and against his office. His position seems to be far greater stabilized among the Hungarian exiles during the last year than ever before. He has very strong contacts with the executive committee of the Hungarian National Council located in the US, and keeps very close ties with Regent Horthy. At the same time, his connections with the monarchist element seem to be equally strong. He is continually keeping alert his contacts with the Hungarian Protestant churches, but he is not so highly regarded by leaders of the Hungarian Roman Catholic element.

The reason for his cooling off towards the Hungarian Catholic groups seems to be the change of leadership among the Hungarian Catholic key leaders. He himself is a Lutheran and the Catholics always regarded him with a certain amount of suspicion.

Henyey's general attitude is unquestionable cooperation toward each Hungarian faction. Because of this desire to cooperate with every organization sometimes he does things which shake the confidence of even his closest friends.

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